




FLORIDA DEPARTMENT of STATE

CHARLIE CRIST
Governor

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Secretary of State

TO: Supervisors of Elections

FROM: Donald Palmer, Director
Division of Elections 

DATE: September 22, 2008

SUBJECT: Voters Addresses

The Division of Elections has received a number of calls relating to the address on the form of identification provided at the polls. There appear to be recent reports circulating that provide incorrect information relating to voting regulations. The reports that indicate that a person's information (such as address) on the identification presented at the polls must exactly match the information on the person's voter registration record are false. The identification at the polls is used solely to confirm the voter's identity – not to verify the voter's ID number or address. The photo on the ID is compared to the person standing before the poll worker and the signature is matched against the signature that the voter puts on the precinct register when he signs in to vote.

People are calling confused about the address and where they vote. As enunciated in the polling procedures manual, it does not matter what their ID says with respect to their address. The voter must vote in the precinct where they live, regardless of whether that address is on their ID. If they have moved without updating their voter registration record, they should contact the supervisor of elections to see where the polling place is located for their new address. The individual should then go to the new polling place and they can do an address change at the polls.

We are using the voter assistance hotline and may issue a press release to get the word out. Please call me if you have any questions.